

LEIGH RURAL DISTRICT.

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# REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1918.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS  
OF THE  
LEIGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1918.

BIRTHS.

During 1918 the births registered in the district numbered 222—Males, 125 ; Females, 97—giving an annual birth rate of 20·8 per 1,000 of the estimated population. Included in the above are 7 illegitimate births, 3 Males and 4 Females.

DEATHS.

The total deaths registered in the district during the same period numbered 166—77 were males and 89 females. The

nett death rate is 17·4 per 1,000. Deaths were attributed to the following causes :—

				Males.		Females.
Influenza ...	...	...	...	16	...	20
Bronchitis	...	...	...	7	...	5
Pneumonia	...	...	...	9	...	10
Heart Disease	...	...	...	6	...	5
Cancer ...	...	...	...	4	...	2
Meningitis	...	...	...	1	...	3
Congenital Debility and Premature						
Birth	...	...	...	2	...	6
Violence ...	...	...	...	3	...	1
Suicide ...	...	...	...	0	...	3
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	...			4	..	1
Do. (Non-Pulmonary)				1	...	0

Inquests were held in 8 cases :—Lowton, 3 ; Astley, 3 ; Culcheth, 1.

## ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The deaths registered from the seven principal zymotic diseases numbered 17, giving an annual zymotic rate of 1·7 per 1,000. They were as follows :—Smallpox, 0 ; Measles, 3 ; Scarlet Fever, 0 ; Whooping Cough, 6 ; Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup, 5 ; Enteric Fever, 0 ; Diarrhœa, 3. Total, 17.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

The deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 23, and this gives an infant mortality of 99.

The infant mortality is the proportion of deaths under one year to 1,000 registered births, and not to the population.

## COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

Per 1,000 of Population.

			Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Epidemic Death Rate.	Phthisis Death Rate.	Rate of Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births.
1918	...	...	20·8	17·4	1·78	0·52	99
1917	...	...	19·4	13·4	0·92	0·51	132
1916	...	...	21·9	11·5	0·59	0·29	78
1915	...	...	26·7	15·3	3·18	0·86	119
Mean of 10 years (1908-1917)	...	}	27·0	14·5	2·00	0·78	127
Increase or Decrease in 1918 on :							
Previous year	...		+ 1·4	+ 4·0	+ 0·86	+ 0·01	- 33
Ten years' average			- 6·2	+ 2·9	- 0·22	- 0·26	- 28

In the whole of England and Wales for 1918 the Birth Rate was 17·7; Death Rate, 17·6; Infant Mortality, 97.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Infectious Diseases notified during the year, including Measles, numbered 173, compared with 119 in 1917 and 176 in 1916.

91 occurring in persons under 5 years.

82 „ „ over 5 years.

## TYPHOID FEVER.

Only one case was notified during the year in Lowton. The case was removed to the Sanatorium.

The house was visited, and sanitary defects were found, viz: Insanitary condition of privies. This defect has been remedied.

## SMALLPOX.

The district has been free from this disease.

## SCARLET FEVER.

Eleven cases were notified : 6 occurring in persons under 5 years of age, 5 occurring in persons over 5 years of age. 4 in Lowton, 5 in Astley, and 2 in Culcheth. 4 were removed to the Sanatorium. No deaths.

## DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANEOUS CROUP.

Twenty-three cases were notified. 5 occurred in persons under 5 years of age ; 18 occurred in persons over 5 years of age :—7 in Lowton, 1 in Astley, 13 in Culcheth, and 2 in Kenyon. Deaths—1 in Lowton, 3 in Culcheth.

## DIPHTHERIA

Diphtheria took epidemic form in Culcheth in June. The Infant School was suspected as being the means by which the disease was being spread, so the School was closed. The epidemic abated.

## ERYSIPELAS.

Seven cases notified ; None in persons under 5 years, 7 in persons over 5 years :—2 in Lowton, 2 in Culcheth, and 3 in Astley. Deaths 0.

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

One case was notified in an infant under 1 year of age, in Astley.

## PUERPERAL FEVER.

No cases were notified during the year.

## MEASLES.

One Hundred and Eleven cases were notified ; 76 occurred in persons under 5 years of age, 35 occurred in persons over 5 years of age :—100 in Astley, 8 in Culcheth, 2 in Lowton, and 1 in Kenyon. Deaths 3.



## INFLUENZA.

Along with the rest of the country, an epidemic of Influenza appeared in the district in July, and again of a more severe type in October and November. The Schools in the district were closed during a portion of the latter period.

The total deaths from Influenza were 36 :—Males, 16 ; Females, 20.

### DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

LOWTON.    Total, 16.

Typhoid Fever, 1 ; Scarlet Fever, 4 ; Diphtheria, 7 ; Measles, 2 ; Erysipelas, 2.    Removed to Sanatorium : Scarlet, 1 ; Diphtheria, 0 ; Typhoid Fever, 1.

KENYON.    Total, 3.

Two cases of Diphtheria and 1 of Measles were notified during the year.    Removed to the Sanatorium : Diphtheria 1.

ASTLEY.    Total, 110.

Diphtheria, 1 ; Scarlet Fever, 5 ; Erysipelas, 3 ; Measles, 100 ; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1.    Removed to Sanatorium : Scarlet Fever, 2 ; Diphtheria, 1.

CULCHETH.    Total, 25.

Scarlet Fever, 2 ; Diphtheria, 13 ; Erysipelas, 2 ; Measles, 8.    Removed to Sanatorium : Diphtheria, 8 ; Scarlet Fever, 1.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

(Including Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary).

Nineteen cases were notified.    Males, 10 ; Females, 9.

Distribution :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.
Lowton .....	2	...	1
Kenyon .....	0	...	0
Astley .....	4	...	6
Culcheth .....	4	...	2
	—		—
	10		9

(a) PULMONARY.

All cases were visited, and instructions given as to the necessary precautions to be taken to prevent the spread of the disease. Four cases were removed to Tuberculosis Sanatoria at Eldwich, Luneside, and Meathop. The houses were disinfected afterwards.

Five deaths occurred from Phthisis. The death-rate from Phthisis is 0.52.

(b) NON-PULMONARY.

Excluding Phthisis, Tuberculous Diseases caused 2 deaths.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water supply is the same as in the previous year.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The same as in the previous year.

HOUSING.

No houses have been erected during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Approximate number of Pail Closets	...	...	75
„ „ Duckets Closets	...	...	2
„ „ Water Closets...	...	...	253
„ „ Privies and Ashpits	...	...	1686

The number of water closets is increased by 2.

REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

Owing to the war it has been found necessary to continue the old unsatisfactory system. The Council has, however, decided to employ men for this purpose, and in future the removal of the contents of the Ashpits will be done by the Council's own Motor Lorries.

This should prove a satisfactory way of dealing with the matter in a scattered rural district.



## TABULAR STATEMENT OF WORK UNDER THE HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	107
„ „ unfit for habitation	...	...	...	...	11
„ „ closed without an order	...	...	...	...	0
„ „ since remedied	...	...	...	...	7
„ „ remaining	...	...	...	...	4
Representations made as to Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	0
Closing Orders made...	...	...	...	...	0
Dwellings in which defects were remedied	...	...	...	...	32
Dwelling-houses remaining	...	...	...	...	4

## TABULAR STATEMENT OF HOUSES INSPECTED AND DEFECTS FOUND.

	Defects.	No. of Defects.	No. Remedied.	No. Re- maining.
1. Water supply	...	4	3	1
2. Closet accommodation	...	13	12	1
3. Drainage	...	12	12	0
4. Light, circulation of air, dampness and Cleanliness...	...	20	18	2
5. Paving and drainage of yards	...	7	4	3
6. Disposal of refuse	...	14	14	0
7. Rooms unfit	...	6	6	0
8. Other defects	...	9	9	0
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	...	85	78	7

## FOOD SUPPLY, &c.

The following samples of food have been taken for analysis :

Lowton : Milk, 12.

Astley : Milk, 5.

Culcheth : Milk, 5.

These have been reported by the County Analyst to be genuine, with the exception of one sample of milk from Culcheth. Prosecution followed, and a conviction was obtained.

## DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The milk supply has been satisfactory.

The dairies, on the whole, are satisfactory.

Defects of ventilation and light in the cowsheds were pointed out and remedied. Other defects were, want of lime-washing, drainage, and repairs. Total, 15.

The cowsheds in several cases are badly constructed. More airspace, more light, better ventilation and drainage are required.

## BAKEHOUSES.

Only three defects, viz., 2 lime-washing, 1 defective drainge, and these were remedied.

## LODGING-HOUSES.

Six defects were found—1 unregistered, 4 lime-washing, and 1 insufficient closet accommodation. These were remedied.

## SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Two defects were found, 1 defective drain, and 1 limewashing.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Six defects were found, 5 relating to cleanliness, 1 to closet accommodation, and these were remedied.

31 Inspections were made and 6 informal notices served.

## SCHOOLS.

All the schools in the district have been visited and attention called to 4 defects, viz., 1 dampness, 1 drain, 2 cleanliness.

The privies connected with the schools are, on the whole, kept in a sanitary condition.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following specimens were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Manchester :—

Six from suspected Diphtheria. Result : 4 positive, 1 negative.

## WELLS.

Eight samples of water from wells in the district have been submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination, viz. :—

3 first samples from Culcheth, all of which showed evidence of pollution.

5 second samples, 3 of which were found improved.

Of the 11 samples submitted in 1917, and found to be polluted .—

3 have been improved.

6 Wells have been closed for domestic use.

5 have been replaced by connections to the water mains.

2 are being dealt with.

It is advisable, in my opinion, to continue the extension of the water mains wherever possible and so prevent the use of these surface wells, which are liable to become polluted at any time.

## NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

Notifications of Births were received in 137 cases.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. TONG,

Medical Officer of Health.

# LEIGH RURAL

## REPORT OF THE WORK PERFORMED BY THE INSPECTOR OF

Description of Work Performed.							No.
No. of Houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	1020
„ Inspections made under the Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	1204
„ Statutory Notices served	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	33
„ Informal Notices	do	do.	do.	do.	...	...	124
„ Factories, Workshops, Bakehouses and Slaughter-houses under Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ Inspections of Factories, Workshops, Bakehouses and Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
„ Statutory Notices served under Factories, Workshops, Bakehouses and Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Informal Notices	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	11
„ Lodging-houses under Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
„ Inspections of Lodging-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
„ Statutory Notices served on Lodging-house Keepers	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Informal Notices	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	6
„ Dairies and Cowsheds under Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
„ Inspections made under the Dairies and Cowsheds' Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	221
„ Statutory Notices served on Occupiers of Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ Informal	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	11
„ Canal Boats Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ Statutory Notices served under Canal Boats' Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Informal Notices	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	0
„ Travelling Vans Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ Statutory Notices served on Occupiers of Travelling Vans	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Informal Notices	do.	do	do	do.	...	...	1
„ Infectious Diseases Reported	...	...	...	...	...	...	173
„ Infectious Diseases Removed to Sanatoriums	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
„ Houses Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
„ New Houses Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Total Number of Inspections made during the year 1915	...	...	...	...	...	...	1564
„ Statutory Notices served	do.	...	...	...	...	...	37
„ Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	153

Risley, Culcheth,

December 31st, 1918.



# DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## NUISANCES DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1918

Description of Nuisances Dealt With.				No.	Abated Remaining		
Drains Made, Cleansed, etc.	...	...	...	40	...	40	0
Sink-Pipes Connected or Defective	...	...	...	6	...	6	0
Old Privies and Ashpits Removed	...	...	...	2	...	2	0
New Privies and Ashpits Built	...	...	...	0	...	0	0
Privies or Ashpits Out of Repair, etc.	...	...	...	27	...	24	3
Houses Damp, Out of Repair, etc.	...	...	...	26	...	20	6
Houses or Premises in a Dirty State	...	...	...	19	...	18	1
Houses Overcrowded...	...	...	...	2	...	2	0
Houses Demolished without an Order	...	...	...	0	...	0	0
Houses Closed without an Order	...	...	...	0	...	0	0
Yard Pavements Defective or Out of Repair	...	...	...	16	...	15	1
Wells Defective or Out of Repair	...	...	...	4	...	2	2
Animals or Poultry kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	1	...	1	0
Buildings Dangerous	...	...	...	0	...	0	0
Other Nuisances and Accumulations	...	...	...	116	...	111	5
Nuisances remaining from 1916	...	...	...	32	...	32	0
Total Number of Nuisances Notified during 1918...				259		241	15
Approximate No. of Pail Closets	...	...	...	75			
do. Ducket Closets	...	...	...	2			
do. Water Closets	...	...	...	253			
do. Privies with Ashpits	...	...	...	1686			

J. MONKS,  
Inspector of Nuisances.



TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1918 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.  
LEIGH RURAL DISTRICT.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.		
												4
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1912	10140	284	..	28.08	124	12.22	2	13	34	119	135	13.31
1913	10240	273	...	26.75	158	15.43	1	19	42	153	175	17.09
1914	10330	275	278	26.91	120	11.61	3	12	32	115	129	12.48
1915	10375	275	276	26.60	146	14.07	5	18	33	119	159	15.32
1916	{ 10115 D'ths 11005 B'ths	240	242	21.9	101	9.98	3	19	19	78	117	11.56
1917	{ 9757 D'ths 10876 B'ths	—	211	19.4	117	11.5	10	24	28	132	131	13.4
1918	{ 9498 D'ths 10642 B'ths	—	222	20.8	151	15.9	—	—	23	99	166	17.4

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) ... 11573

TABLE II.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1918.  
LEIGH RURAL DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY. (e.g. Parish or Ward of the District.)				TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							1 Lowton.	2 Kenyon.	3 Astley.	4 Culcheth.	
		Under 1.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.					
Small-pox...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ...	23	...	5	14	4	...	...	...	7	2	1	13	10
Erysipelas ...	7	...	...	...	...	2	4	1	2	...	3	2	...
Scarlet fever ...	11	...	6	4	1	...	...	...	4	...	5	2	4
Typhus fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Relapsing fever (R) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever (C) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	10	...	...	1	4	5	...	...	2	...	4	4	4
Other forms of do.	9	1	2	3	3	...	...	...	1	...	6	2	...
Measles ...	111	14	62	35	...	...	...	...	2	1	100	8	...
Totals ...	173	16	75	57	13	7	4	1	19	3	120	31	19

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, &c. :— Joint Hospital, Leigh Borough, Leigh Rural, Atherton, Tyldesley, and Golborne.  
Cases of Tuberculosis sent 10 Meathop Sanatorium, Eldwich, and Luneside.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR  
 THE YEAR 1918 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF LEIGH  
 on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 in connection with  
 FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES. Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.				
Premises.  (1)	Number of			
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)	
FACTORIES ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	10	1	...	
WORKSHOPS ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	21	5	...	
WORKPLACES ... .. (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	...	...	...	
Total ... ..	31	6		
2—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.				
Particulars.  (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecu- tions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	5	5	...	...
Want of ventilation ... ..	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances ... ..	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Accommodat'n { insufficient ... ..	...	...	...	...
{ unsuitable or defective... ..	1	1	...	..
{ not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	..	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act .</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakeh'se	...	...	...	...
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other offences ... ..	...	...	...	...
Total ... ..	6	6		
3.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.				
Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.				Number.
Bakehouses .. ...	...	...	...	6
Joiners and Builders ... ..	...	...	...	2
Wheelwrights ... ..	...	...	...	3
Blacksmiths ... ..	...	...	...	7
Various ... ..	...	...	...	5
Total number of workshops on Register ... ..				23